

**From:** John O'Brien  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/17/02 10:57am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

**CC:** John@oceancitylocal.com@inetgw

10505 Blue Heron Court<?xml:namespace prefix = o ns =  
"urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office" />  
Bishopville, MD 21813-1477

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

January 11, 2002

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing in support of the settlement reached between the government and Microsoft in the antitrust case. A lot of time has been spent on this, and I hope finally Microsoft will be able to get back to providing America with its innovative creations. I am dissatisfied with the amount of money now necessary to conduct business in the software industry due to government antitrust laws. I would like the legislature to review and update these laws so that the laws are applicable to today's technology industries.

I think the settlement is very fair, particularly Microsoft's willingness to grant computer makers broad new rights to configure Windows so as to promote non-Microsoft software programs that compete with programs included within Windows. Microsoft's decision not to retaliate against computer makers and software developers who ship software that competes with anything in its Windows operating system is also a key concession that will benefit competitors and consumers alike

In closing, I thank Microsoft for not wasting taxpayer money in a lengthy and costly legal battle and for being so generous with this settlement. I urge you to approve this settlement, and allow Microsoft to move on.

Sincerely,

John R. O'Brien

John R. O'Brien  
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